

portion 188 to protect surface 190 from countertop spills and drips. In the illustrated embodiment, control mounting surface 190 extends from an upper portion of door outer panel 182 and is inwardly inclined to form a recessed control panel mounting surface, and hood portion 188 overhangs door outer panel 182.

IN THE CLAIMS

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1. (once amended) A latch assembly for a door including a door retainer projection, said latch assembly comprising:

a handle pivotally mounted to the door for rotation about a first end;

a latch actuator contacting said handle and mounted to the door for rotation about a second end, said handle rotating in one direction when actuated and said latch actuator rotating in a second direction opposite the first direction; and

a resilient keeper engaged to the door retainer projection in a closed position, said latch actuator configured to disengage said keeper from the door retainer projection when said handle is actuated.

2. (once amended) A latch assembly in accordance with Claim 1, said handle comprising an actuator portion in sliding engagement with said latch actuator.

- 3. (once amended) A latch assembly in accordance with Claim 1, said handle further comprising a closed handle stop.
- 4. (once amended) A latch assembly in accordance with Claim 1, said handle comprising a pin and a longitudinal axis, said latch actuator comprising a pin and a longitudinal axis, said latch handle longitudinal axis displaced from said latch actuator longitudinal axis.
- 5. (once amended) A latch assembly in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising a bracket, said handle and said latch actuator mounted to said bracket.

- 6. (once amended) A door latch assembly for an appliance comprising:
- a door comprising a door retainer projection;
- a latch handle pivotally mounted to said door; and
- a latch actuator pivotally mounted to said door, said latch handle pivoting in one direction, said latch actuator pivoting in another direction, said handle selectively positionable between an open position and aclosed position to couple said door to the appliance via said door retainer projection.
- 7. (once amended) A door latch assembly in accordance with Claim 6 wherein the appliance is a dishwasher including a tub assembly, said latch assembly further comprising a keeper attached to the door assembly for engaging said door retainer projection.

16. (once amended) A door assembly for a dishwasher, said door assembly comprising: an escutcheon;

a latch handle pivotally mounted to said escutcheon about a first rotational axis; and

a latch actuator pivotally mounted to said escutcheon about a second rotational axis; said latch handle contacting said latch actuator when rotated about said first longitudinal axis in a first direction and causing said actuator to rotate about said second longitudinal axis in a second direction opposite said first direction.

19. (once amended) A dishwasher comprising:

a tub assembly comprising a keeper attached thereto;

a door assembly comprising a bracket and a door retainer projection for engaging said

-keeper;